

REMARKS

With respect to the claims, this applications stands, as amended, with Claims 4-11, 14, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 28-30, 32, 35, and 37-44 where Claims 37-44 are independent.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 4-11, 24, 28-33 and 38-42 are allowed.

Claim rejection under 35 USC 102

The Examiner has rejected Claims 14, 19-20, 22, 25, 34-35, 37 and 43-44 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,739,126 issued to Gutter et al. (the Gutter Patent). The Gutter patent illustrates a four piece connector for a coaxial cable. The connector includes a housing 12, a termination member 14 with pointed ends, a compression member 16 and a closure member 18.

With respect to independent Claim 37, the Gutter patent, however, fails to teach or disclose the ends of the termination member and the ends of the compression member being complimentarily ramp shaped. Instead, as illustrated in Figures 2 and 3, the Gutter patent discloses a termination member with ends that are rounded or curved with a prong 43 extending inwardly therefrom. The Gutter patent discloses a tubular shaped compression member with a tapered compression surface 57 which tapers from outer end 58 to horizontal inner end 59. As illustrated in Figure 2, the initial contact between the termination member and the compression member is between the horizontal inner end of the compression member and the rounded end of the prongs. As shown in Figure 3, the rounded end of the prong contacts the tapered

compression surface of the compression member as the compression member urges the prong into the cable.

Thus, the Gutter patent fails to teach or disclose a termination member with a ramp shaped end and a compression member that has a complimentary ramp shaped end. As such, the Gutter patent does not anticipate the invention as set forth in independent Claim 37. Applicant asserts that independent Claim 37 is allowable over the Gutter patent.

With respect to independent Claim 43, Applicant has amended independent Claim 43 so that it includes the allowable subject matter of Claim 33. Applicant has also cancelled Claim 34. Thus, the Examiner's rejections with respect to Claims 43 and 34 are now moot. As such, Applicant asserts that amended independent Claim 43 and Claim 14 that depends therefrom are allowable over the Gutter patent.

With respect to independent Claim 44, the Gutter patent also fails to teach or disclose the termination member, e.g. the clamping arm, disposed within the housing so as to surround the insulated conductor as it is inserted in the housing. The Gutter patent specifically discloses the order of assembly of the ground terminal apparatus. In column 5, lines 3-40, the Gutter patent describes that the "closure member, the compression member and the termination member are slid over the end of a cable, in that order." Next, the cable end is inserted into the opening in the housing and through the opening in a panel containing electrical circuitry to be connected to the cable. The termination member may then be slid along the cable and into an aperture in the housing. Finally, the closure member is slid along the cable and once it engages the housing it is threaded onto the housing. As the closure member is threaded onto the housing, it engages the compression member and forces the compression member into the aperture within the housing adjacent the termination member. Thus, the Gutter patent does not anticipate independent Claim

44. Accordingly, Applicant asserts that independent Claim 44 and the claims that depend therefrom are allowable over the Gutter patent.

With respect to Claim 14, as previously discussed, Applicant has amended Claim 43 to include the allowable subject matter of Claim 33. The Examiner's rejection with respect to dependent Claim 14 is now moot. As such, Applicant asserts that Claim 14 is allowable over the Gutter patent.

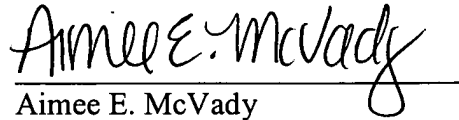
With respect to dependent Claims 19 and 21, based on the arguments asserted above with respect to independent Claim 44, Applicant asserts that since independent Claim 44 is allowable over the Gutter patent, Claims 19 and 21 that depend therefrom are also allowable. As a result, the Examiner's rejections with respect to Claims 19 and 21 are now moot.

With respect to Claim 20, in addition to the arguments asserted above with respect to independent Claim 44, the Gutter patent fails to teach or disclose a clamping arm with a beveled edge. As previously discussed, the Gutter patent discloses a termination member with a rounded or curved end. Thus, the Gutter patent does not anticipate Claim 20. Applicant asserts that dependent Claim 20 is allowable over the Gutter patent.

With respect to Claim 25, in addition to the arguments asserted above with respect to independent Claim 44, the Gutter patent fails to teach or disclose a portion of the inner insulation layer and the center conductor protruding from the insulated conductor and a portion of the center conductor protruding from the protruding portion of the insulation layer as set forth in Claim 25 and illustrated in Figure 6 of the present invention. As such, the Gutter patent does not anticipate Claim 25. Accordingly, Applicant asserts that dependent Claim 25 is allowable over the Gutter patent.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims as now amended. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Aimee E. McVady", written over a horizontal line.

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